

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims and add new Claims 13 to 20 as shown below.

The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ of managing a communication network comprising a sub-network having on the one hand a sub-network consisting of communication nodes interconnected by links conveying digital signals, and ~~on the other hand several~~ a plurality of hosts able to exchange data via the ~~by means of this~~ sub-network, wherein ~~said method being characterised in that~~, in order to actuate, from a ~~any~~ first node ~~in the network~~, any host based on ~~in the network by means of~~ operating commands transmitted by ~~an appropriate~~ a control interface (103, 116) attached to a second node ~~in the network~~ to which said host is connected, the method comprises the steps of:

[[-]] transmitting a search signal containing information representing the technical features of ~~the~~ a host to be actuated ~~is transmitted~~ from said first node in ~~the~~ a direction of the nodes in the network including the first node; [[,]]

[[-]] identifying a candidate host ~~is identified~~, which may be the host to be actuated on the basis of compatibility between the technical features of this candidate host and the technical features indicated in the search signal; [[,]] and

[[-]] starting this host candidate ~~is started up~~ by means of a control interface (103, 116) attached to the node to which said candidate host is connected, and

[[-]] wherein, if this candidate host proves not to be the host to be actuated, a search signal is transmitted once again in order to continue the search, whereas, if this host does ~~indeed~~ prove to be the host to be actuated, operating commands are sent to it by means of said control interface (103, 116), which also interrupts the search.

2. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method of managing a~~
~~communication network~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said network
comprises at least one host ~~able~~ to exchange analogue signals by means of a data interface
(102) and ~~being able~~ to be controlled by means of a control interface (116), wherein ~~and in~~
~~that certain technical features useful for being able~~ to control this at least one host are
obtained by ~~analysing~~ analyzing the technical features of said data interface (102).

3. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method of managing a~~
~~communication network~~ according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~, in order to put
two hosts ~~in the network~~ in communication, ~~[[a]] the method according to claim 1 or claim~~
~~2 is implemented for at least one of said two hosts.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method of managing a~~
~~communication network~~ according to claim 3, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ said two hosts
are connected to the same node in said sub-network.

5. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ of determining technical
features in a communication network comprising ~~on the one hand~~ a sub-network having
~~consisting of~~ communication nodes interconnected by links conveying digital signals, and
~~on the other hand several~~ a plurality of hosts ~~able~~ to exchange data via the ~~by means of this~~
sub-network, at least one host amongst said hosts exchanging ~~being able to exchange~~
~~analogue~~ signals by means of a data interface (102) and being ~~able to be~~ controlled by
means of a control interface (116), said method comprising:

being characterised in that certain technical features useful for being able to control this at least one host are obtained by analysing analyzing a the technical features feature of said data interface (102); and

obtaining certain technical features to control this at least one host based on the analysis.

6. (Currently Amended) A communication ~~Communication~~ node intended to that forms part of a communication network comprising ~~on the one hand~~ a sub-network having ~~consisting of~~ communication nodes interconnected by links conveying digital signals, and ~~on the other hand several~~ a plurality of hosts able to exchange data via the by means of this sub-network, said node comprising:

being characterised in that it comprises

[[-]] at least one data interface (102) for the possible connection of to a host able to exchange ~~analogue~~ signals; [[,]]

[[-]] at least one control interface (116) ~~able~~ to transmit operating commands to the ~~such a~~ host; [[,]]

[[-]] a unit for (93) supplying ~~said control interface (116)~~ from signals representing these operating commands ~~and received by said unit (93)~~ from other nodes to said control interface, wherein said unit supplies the signals based on the data interface connected to the host.

7. (Currently Amended) A communication ~~Communication~~ node intended to that forms part of a communication network comprising ~~on the one hand~~ a sub-network having ~~consisting of~~ communication nodes interconnected by links conveying digital

signals, and ~~on the other hand several~~ a plurality of hosts ~~able to exchange data via the~~ by means of this sub-network, said node comprising:

~~being characterised in that it has~~

~~[[-]] at least one receiver (115) able to receive operating commands~~

~~intended for any host in the network; [[,]] and~~

~~said receiver (115) supplying~~

~~[[-]] a unit (93) able to produce signals representing these operating~~

~~commands and being able to be transmitted to other nodes, wherein able to receive~~

~~operating commands intended for any host in the network; said receiver (115) supplying a~~

~~unit (93) able to produce produces the signals based on a technical feature of the host~~

~~representing these operating commands and being able to be transmitted to other nodes.~~

8. (Currently Amended) A data ~~Data~~ processing apparatus, ~~characterised in that it has~~ comprising a communication node according to either claim 6 or claim 7.

9. (Currently Amended) A communication ~~Communication~~ network, ~~characterised in that it comprises~~ comprising at least one communication node according to either claim 6 or claim 7.

10. (Currently Amended) The communication ~~Communication~~ network according to claim 9, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said data represent audio-visual information.

11. (Currently Amended) A data ~~Data~~ storage means, which can be read by a computer or a microprocessor, storing instructions of a computer program, characterised in that wherein the program implements the ~~it makes it possible to implement~~ a method according to any one of claims 1, 2 ~~or to 5~~.

12. (Currently Amended) A data ~~Data~~ storage means which is removable, partially or totally, and which can be read by a computer and/or a microprocessor storing instructions of a computer program, characterised in that wherein the program implements the ~~it makes it possible to implement~~ a method according to any one of claims 1, 2 ~~or to 5~~.

13. (New) A communication node that forms part of a communication network comprising a sub-network consisting of communication nodes interconnected by links conveying signals, and a plurality of hosts being able to exchange data via the sub-network, said node comprising:

means for comparing technical features indicated in a received search signal with technical features of a host to which said node is connected; and

a control interface that starts up and operates said host based on a comparison result by the comparing means.

14. (New) Communication node according to Claim 13, further comprising:

at least one data interface for connecting a host to exchange analog signals and to receive operation commands from said control interface; and

a unit for supplying said control interface with received signals which represent these operating commands.

15. (New) A communication node that forms part of a communication network comprising a sub-network consisting of communication nodes interconnected by links conveying digital signals, and a plurality of hosts to exchange data via the sub-network, said node comprising:

means for transmitting to all nodes in the network a search signal containing information representing technical features of a host to be actuated; and

means for sending operating commands to said host to be actuated.

16. (New) Communication node according to Claim 15, further comprising:

at least one receiver to receive operating commands intended for said host to be actuated; and

a unit to produce signals representing the operating commands.

17. (New) A communication apparatus comprising:

a wireless communication means for wirelessly communicating with another wireless communication apparatus;

a wired communication means for communicating with another apparatus;

receiving means for receiving, by said wireless communication means, instruction signals for instructing to search for an apparatus possessing a predetermined technical feature; and

searching means for searching, by said wired communication means, the apparatus possessing the predetermined technical features based on the received instruction signal.

18. (New) The communication apparatus according to Claim 17, further comprising controlling means for controlling the apparatus searched by said searching means.

19. (New) The communication apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein said controlling means operates the searched apparatus by an operating command.

20. (New) A method for searching for an apparatus possessing a predetermined technical feature by a communication apparatus, comprising:

a wireless receiving step of wirelessly receiving an instruction signal for instructing to search for an apparatus possessing the predetermined technical feature; and

a searching step of searching for the apparatus possessing the predetermined technical feature based on the received instruction signal.